

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A holding device for holding a solid in a tube, comprising:
a filter having an elastically deformable part that is coupled to a disk such that the deformable part is transverse to [a] the disc; and
a spring pressing the elastically deformable part against the walls of the tube.
2. (Previously amended) A holding device according to claim 1, characterized in that the disc has transverse apertures.
3. (Previously amended) A holding device according to claim 1, characterized in that the part is in the form of a tube with a slit over part of its length.
4. (Previously amended) A holding device according to claim 1, characterized in that the part comprises two tabs.
5. (Previously amended) A test kit comprising:
a tube;
two holding devices according to claim 1; and
a reactant between the ends of the holding devices of claim 1.
6. (Previously amended) The test kit according to claim 5, characterized in that the tube is made of glass.
7. (Previously amended) The test kit according to claim 5, characterized in that the reactant is in the form of granules.

8. (Previously amended) The test kit according to claim 7, characterized in that the discs have transverse apertures smaller than the size of the granules.

9. (Previously amended) The test kit according to claim 5, characterized in that a cap closes off the tube at each of its ends.

10. (Previously amended) The test kit according to claim 5, characterized in that the diameter of the ends is at most equal to the inside diameter of the tube.

11. (Previously amended) A method of assembling a test kit according to claim 5, comprising the steps of:

- introducing the holding device of claim 1 into a tube;
- introducing a reactant into the tube; and
- introducing a second holding device into the tube.

12. (Previously amended) A method according to claim 11, characterized in that it furthermore includes the step of closing off the tube with a cap at each of its ends.

13. (Previously presented) A test kit comprising:
a tube;
two holding devices that each comprise a filter having an elastically deformable part transverse to a disc, and a spring pressing the elastically deformable part against the walls of the tube; and
a reactant between the ends of the holding devices

14. (Previously presented) A method of assembling a test kit, comprising the steps of:

providing a first holding device comprising a filter having an elastically deformable part transverse to a disc, and a spring pressing the elastically deformable part against the walls of the tube;

- introducing the first holding device into a tube;

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introducing a reactant into the tube; and
introducing a second holding device into the tube.